

What is claimed is:

1. An improved trailer for transporting a bulk seed box, the box having first and second sidewalls, a bottom, a top, and a flange extending along the sidewalls adjacent the bottom of the box, the trailer comprising:
a wheeled bed for supporting a bulk seed box, the bed having a perimeter edge;
a hopper extending below the bed for receiving seed from the bulk seed box;
a conveyor operatively connected to the hopper for unloading seed from the hopper; and
the bed having guide plates extending upwardly and outwardly to facilitate centering of the box on the bed.

2. The improved trailer of claim 1 wherein the bed has four corners and the guide plates are located at the corners of the bed.

3. The improved trailer of claim 1 further comprising lock bars on the bed to overlappingly engage the flange of the seed box to secure the seed box to the bed.

4. The improved trailer of claim 3 wherein each lock bar is pivotally connected to the bed for movement between unlocked and locked positions.

5. The improved trailer of claim 4 further comprising pins on the bed adapted to selectively engage a portion of the lock bars to maintain the lock bars in the locked positions.

6. The improved trailer of claim 3 wherein the bed has a front end, a back end, and opposite sides, and the lock bars extend between opposite sides adjacent the front and back ends.

7. The improved trailer of claim 3 wherein the lock bars are pivotally mounted on the guide plates.

8. The improved trailer of claim 1 wherein the conveyor extends laterally away from the first sidewall, and the hopper includes a gate moveable between a closed position for retaining seed in the hopper and an open position for discharging seed from the hopper, and having a control arm connected to the gate and extending toward the first sidewall adjacent the conveyor.

9. The improved trailer of claim 1 wherein the conveyor is an auger including a first inner section and a second outer section pivotally attached to the first section for movement between transport and discharge positions, and including a gas cylinder to facilitate movement of the second section between the transport and discharge positions.

10. An improved trailer for transporting a bulk seed box, the box having first and second sidewalls, a bottom, a top, and a flange extending along the sidewalls adjacent the bottom of the box, the trailer comprising:
a wheeled bed for supporting a bulk seed box, the bed having a perimeter edge;
a hopper extending below the bed for receiving seed from the bulk seed box;

a conveyor operatively connected to the hopper for unloading seed from the hopper; and lock bars on the bed to overlappingly engage the flange on the seed box to secure the seed box to the bed.

11. The improved trailer of claim 10 wherein each lock bar is pivotally connected to the bed for movement between unlocked and locked positions.

12. The improved trailer of claim 11 further comprising pins on the bed adapted to selectively engage a portion of the lock bars to maintain the lock bars in the locked positions.

13. The improved trailer of claim 10 wherein the bed has a front end, a back end, and opposite sides, and the lock bars extend between opposite sides adjacent the front and back ends.

14. The improved trailer of claim 10 further comprising guide plates extending upwardly and outwardly from the bed to facilitate centering of the box on the bed.

15. The improved trailer of claim 10 wherein the lock bars are pivotally mounted on the guide plates.

16. The improved trailer of claim 10 further comprising the bed having guide plates extending upwardly and outwardly to facilitate centering of the box on the bed.

17. The improved trailer of claim 10 wherein the bed has four corners and the guide plates are located at the corners of the bed.

18. The improved trailer of claim 10 wherein the conveyor extends laterally away from the first sidewall, and the hopper includes a gate moveable between a closed position for retaining seed in the hopper and an open position for discharging seed from the hopper, and having a control arm connected to the gate and extending toward the first sidewall adjacent the conveyor.

19. The improved trailer of claim 10 wherein the conveyor is an auger including a first inner section and a second outer section pivotally attached to the first section for movement between transport and discharge positions, and including a gas cylinder to facilitate movement of the second section between the transport and discharge positions.

20. An improved trailer for transporting a bulk seed box, comprising:
a wheeled bed for supporting a bulk seed box, the bed having a perimeter edge;
a hopper extending below the bed for receiving seed from the bulk seed box;
a conveyor operatively connected to the hopper for unloading seed from the hopper;
having a control arm connected to the gate and extending toward the first sidewall adjacent the auger; and
the hopper including a gate moveable between a closed position for retaining seed in the hopper and an open position for discharging seed from the hopper, and

having a control arm connected to the gate and extending toward the first sidewall adjacent the conveyor.

21. The improved trailer of claim 20 wherein the control arm has a lower end connected to the gate and an upper end adapted to be grasped by an operator for manual movement between the open and closed positions.

22. The improved trailer of claim 20 wherein the upper end of the control arm slidably extends through a support guide.

23. The improved trailer of claim 20 wherein the upper and lower ends of the control arm extend substantially horizontally, and the control arm includes an angled central portion between the upper and lower ends.

24. An improved trailer for transporting a bulk seed box, the box having first and second sidewalls, a bottom, a top, and a flange extending along the sidewalls adjacent the bottom of the box, the trailer comprising:

a wheeled bed for supporting a bulk seed box, the bed having a perimeter edge;

a hopper extending below the bed for receiving seed from the bulk seed box;

an auger operatively connected to the hopper for unloading seed from the hopper, and having a first section and a second section pivotally attached to the first section for movement between transport and discharge positions; and

a gas cylinder to facilitate movement of the second section between the transport and discharge positions.

25. The improved trailer of claim 24 further comprising a leverage arm connected to the second section to facilitate movement of the second section to the discharge position.

10020342-201204